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Utah Celebrates County/Mayors Day of National Service Recognition

SALT LAKE CITY/PROVO- Utah's mayors are increasingly turning to national service as a cost effective strategy to address city and county challenges. To spotlight the impact of national service and thank those who serve, mayors and county officials across Utah and the country will participate in the County/Mayors Day of National Service Recognition on April 7, 2015. The day is sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), the National League of Cities, National Association of Counties and Cities of Service. CNCS annually engages more than five million citizens in service at more than 60,000 locations in 8,500 cities across the country through AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, and other programs.

Currently 5,992 National Service Members are serving in Utah to address the most pressing challenges facing Utah's cities and counties, from educating students for the jobs of the 21st century and supporting veterans and military families to preserving the environment and helping communities recover from natural disasters. In 2014 45,315 volunteers were mobilized by Utah National Service Members. These volunteers served 1.1 million hours in our communities. Across Utah, mayors and county officials are recognizing national service and it impact in their communities with two major events happening in Salt Lake City/Salt Lake County and in Provo.

Salt Lake City/Salt Lake County: This joint event between Salt Lake City and Salt Lake County will begin with opening remarks by Salt Lake County Mayor McAdams and David Everitt, Salt Lake City Mayor's Chief of Staff. National service members will participate in a spring planting project at Real Food Rising, a nonprofit that hosts AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps VISTA members.

When: 10:50am- 1:00pm

Where: Real Food Rising: 1050 W 500 S, Salt Lake City, UT

Provo: Mayor Curtis will recognize national service members at Provo's City Hall and will discuss the significance and

impact of national service. Four AmeriCorps members will join Mayor Curtis and share their experiences.

When: 11:00am-11:30am

Where: Provo City Center Building: 351 W. Center St. 84601

"We are fortunate in Utah to have numerous mayors that know firsthand the value of national service in tackling city and county problems," said LaDawn Stoddard, Director of UServeUtah. Over 50 Mayors & County officials in Utah have joined the recognition initiative. For more information on the County/Mayors Day of Recognition for National Service, including background and a list of those participating, visit www.nationalservice.gov/countiesforservice.

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UServeUtah, the Utah Commission on Service and Volunteerism, is the state's central coordinating body for service and volunteerism. The Commission is responsible for developing, implementing, and sustaining a vision and culture of civic engagement and national and community service within the state. UServeUtah does this through promoting volunteerism; administering National Service programs; connecting people with opportunities to serve; building organizational capacity for effective volunteer engagement and; participating in strategic initiatives that mobilize volunteers to meet local needs.